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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67594

Koichi HAGIWARA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/006,568

Group Art Unit: 3752

Confirmation No.: 3469

Examiner: Christopher S. Kim

Filed: December 10, 2001

For: CLEANING AND RELEASING DEVICE

*Election
#7
12/5/03
D. Brewer*

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to 2 distinct species. The Examiner has required the Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted. The Examiner believes claim 1 to be generic. Applicants have been advised that a response to this requirement shall include an identification of the species that is elected and a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicants elect for examination Species A, Figure 1, on which claims 1-7 are readable.

Applicants also believe that Figure 2 should part of the elected Species A.

Applicants submit that if any of the elected claims are found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should be similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

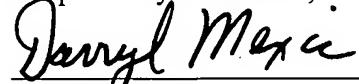
Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claim 8.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES
U.S. Appln. No. 10/006,568
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q67594

Applicants note that this response is timely filed since the due date of November 29, 2003 for responding to the present Office Action fell on a weekend, and this response is being filed on the first business day thereafter..

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 1, 2003